

# CENTRALITIES

February 1, 2010

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## JOB OPENINGS

### Children's Librarian

Richards Memorial Library,  
Paxton

### Library Director

Blackstone Public Library

### Research and Scholarly Communications Librarian

Lamar Soutter Library,  
UMass Medical School,  
Worcester

### ILL/Circulation Assistant

d'Alzon Library, Assumption  
College, Worcester

### Librarian

Tower Hill Botanic Garden

For more information on  
these and other library  
positions, visit

[http://www.cmrls.org/  
development/jobs.htm](http://www.cmrls.org/development/jobs.htm) and

[http://mblc.state.ma.us/  
jobs/find\\_jobs/index.php](http://mblc.state.ma.us/jobs/find_jobs/index.php)

## AT THE CENTER

### Regional Transition Update

TransTeam members met on January 5 and 22. During those meetings, the group set a timeline, discussed topics such as confidentiality and potential conflicts of interest, and agreed on a communication plan.

The name of the organization was decided (Massachusetts Library System) as well as a mission statement. The services to be offered were defined and a governance structure agreed upon.

Several working groups were appointed and these groups will report back to the TransTeam on February 9.

MBLC Director Rob Maier sent an e-mail to the Allregions list on January 27 and attached an overview of the TransTeam's work to date.

Updates on the progress of the TransTeam are posted on the Trend Alert section (left-hand side) of the CMRLS homepage at <http://www.cmrls.org> and on the blog Straight From the Administrator at <http://cmrlsadministrator.blogspot.com/>

## IN THE REGION

Members of the **Sutton Library** teen advisory group participated in a teen panel at the American Library Association midwinter conference in Boston. Sutton teens, Allie Giza,



Rachel Machunski and Sarah Slocum spoke about library services to young adults and how they view libraries to a group of sixty teen librarians from around the country.

**B.J. Perkins** is the Acting Director of the Jeanne X. Kasperson Research Library at Clark University in Worcester.

**Laura O'Neill**, Reference/Instructional Librarian at the Dinand Library at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, has been accepted into the ACRL Teacher Immersion Program. The intense five-day program takes place in July.

## AND ELSEWHERE

### Library Snapshot Day

We all know that libraries are busier than ever, providing incredible service in these challenging economic times. What if libraries went away, even for a day? What would the impact be on our state and the people we serve? What would happen if there were no libraries? Holding a library snapshot day is a simple way to prove that libraries provide invaluable services to our communities.

Peggy Cadigan, Associate State Librarian for Innovation & Outreach Strategies, New Jersey State Library, created a primer for organizing a Library Snapshot Day. Details are on the ALA website under Advocacy University or at <http://is.gd/6P58U>.

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### Library Support Staff Certification from ALA

On January 25, 2010, American Library Association-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA) began accepting applications from potential candidates interested in achieving the Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC).

The LSSC Program is the first national, voluntary certification program for library support staff. This new certification program will help library support staff achieve recognition for current and new skills and abilities, and increase access to continuing education opportunities.

More information about the LSSCP is available online at <http://www.ala-apa.org/lssc>.

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### PSAs for NLW from ALA

National Library Week is April 11-17, but it's not too early to begin planning. To promote NLWeek 2010, the American Library Association has made available a free customizable public service announcement (PSA) featuring award-winning author Neil Gaiman.

Libraries can download the PSA and other materials at [www.ala.org/nlw](http://www.ala.org/nlw).

## GRANTS

For public libraries that received the NEH's **Picturing America** collection of American artwork, the ALA Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities announce a new grant opportunity. Grants of \$2,000 will be distributed to 30 public libraries to support public programs that highlight the Picturing America collection. Applications will be accepted at [www.programminglibrarian.org/picturingamerica](http://www.programminglibrarian.org/picturingamerica). Deadline is March 31.

For more information about Picturing America visit <http://picturingamerica.neh.gov/>.

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The **Grants Resource Center**, on the 3rd floor of the Worcester Public Library, is an affiliate of the Foundation Center in New York City. The Grant Resource Center has

- Directories of corporate, private foundations and government funding;
- Materials on fundraising, non-profit management and proposal writing;
- Electronic resources that make locating funding easy and fast.

Free orientations to funding research using these paper and e-resources is held on the first Wednesday of each month. To register call 508-799-1655.

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Among the many helpful reference books in WPL's Grants Resource Center is **Grants for Libraries: A How-To-Do-It Manual and CD for Librarians** by Stephanie K. Gerding and Pamela H. MacKellar (ISBN: 9781555705350). Published by Neal-Schuman, the book is available for in-library use only.

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Keep up-to-date on available grants by subscribing to the **Library Grants Blog** at <http://librarygrants.blogspot.com/>



# BOOK OF THE MONTH

## Noah's Compass by Anne Tyler

Anne Tyler is a storyteller. She doesn't write intricate plots or exciting cliff hangers. She writes stories about real people. Tyler's characters are like an old rumpled coat that you think you should throw away, but you pause and think "maybe it still has some life in it." And you keep it for one more season. Her characters are not exceptional in anyway. They remind you of people you have worked with, your neighbors or even family members. Through the creation of these characters, Tyler weaves a story that tells us something about our humanity and at the same time, we are entertained.

Tyler's 18th book is *Noah's Compass* and it is a very simple story about 60-year-old Liam who has been



fired from his teaching job and is facing some major changes in his life. He has three daughters and an ex-wife who are perplexed by him and his detachment from life.

He then begins a friendship with Eunice, a 38-year-old burst of energy who shakes up Liam's very dull world.

This is about a man who finally realizes how to be a father and grandfather. This is a man who finally sees where his place is in this world. But readers be warned: if you want angels singing from the sky, car chases, a roll in the hot hay, or that big speech that comes at the end of so many best sellers--this is NOT the book for you. *Noah's Compass* is careful, selective and quiet. And congratulate yourself, you have met some new people today. All thanks to the brilliant mind of Anne Tyler. - Jane Dutton, Gale Free Library, Holden.

## GREEN TIPS

Inspired by the Public Broadcasting System's *Simple Living with Wanda Urbanska*, Laura Bruzas has

begun the blog **Green Your Library**. Read Laura's ideas and suggestions about recycling as well as the story of how she started her blog at <http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/laura-bruzas>.



## SITES TO SEE

Whether you're looking for inspiration for your next PowerPoint presentation, or just need a few new slides, the blog **MakeUseOf** (<http://www.makeuseof.com/>) recently listed these 5 PowerPoint search engines to seek out publicly available presentations.

**Slideworld** searches from nearly 7 million presentations.

<http://www.slideworld.com/>

**Slideworld.org** is a sister search engine specifically for medical presentations.

<http://www.slideworld.org/>

**SlideFinder** is a site which indexes PowerPoint slides from across the web and also from universities which have made them publicly available.

<http://www.slidefinder.net/>

**Presentation2Go**

<http://presentation2go.com/>

**PowerpointSearch**

<http://www.powerpoint-search.com/>

**FileDigg**

<http://www.filedigg.com/>

Read the entire post at <http://is.gd/7iES0>.

CMRLS services are provided through state funds administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.



## UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

To register for these and other CMRLS workshops, go to <http://www.cmrls.org> and click on the Continuing Education Classes link under the word EVENTS on the right-hand side. Here's what's coming up in March:

**Wednesday, March 3** Technical Services Roundtable; 10 AM -12 PM, Jacob Edwards Library, Southbridge.

**Thursday, March 4** Blogging for Your Library: An Overview; 10 AM -12 PM, Worcester Public Library Computer Lab.

**Thursday, March 11** Serials Roundtable; 10 AM - 12 PM, Webster Veterinary Library, Tufts University, Grafton.

**FREE from WebJunction: Tuesday & Wednesday, February 9 & 10** Technology Essentials 2010 Online Conference 11:30 AM - 6 PM. For more information including registration, go to <http://is.gd/75E5E>.



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